*Statement*

| Sl. No. | Name of the Institute in Andhra Pradesh Maharashtra | Expenditure in 1992-93 |
|---|---|---|
| | | (Rs. in lakhs) |
| | A. ANDHRA PRADESH | |
| 1 | Agro-economic Research Centre, Waltair (Under Department of Agri. & Coop.) | 9.99 |
| 2 | Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajamundry | 397.97 |
| 3 | Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad. | 217.974 |
| 4 | National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad | 195.38 |
| 5 | Project Directorate on Rice, Hyderabad | 321.41 |
| 6 | Project Directorate on Poultry, Hyderabad | 175.20 |
| 7 | Project Directorate on Oilseeds, Hyderabad | 444.62 |
| 8 | National Research Centre Sorghum, Hyderabad | 174.00 |
| | B. MAHARASHTRA | |
| 1 | National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Nagpur | 398.37 |
| 2 | Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur | 304.51 |
| 3 | Central Institute of Fishries Education, Bombay | 284.94 |
| 4 | Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, Bombay | 216.90 |
| 5 | National Research Centre—Citrus, Nagpur | 79.84 |

**Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Andhra Pradesh**

3343. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted project proposals for starting Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the districts of Andhra Pradesh and for the establishment of Advance Training Centre at Extension Education Institute, Rajendra Nagar ;

(b) whether these are pending with the Central Government for clearance ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and since when they are pending ; and

(d) what action has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Proposals for starting Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the districts have been recently received. However no proposal for establishment of advance Training Centre at Extension Education Institute, Rajendra Nagar has been received by the Council.

(b) and (c) The proposals for establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the districts of Cuddapah, Nizamabad, Nellore, Prakasam, Krishna, and Visakhapatnam has been received in December, 1993.

(d) The proposal have been examined.

**Budgetary Grants to National Seeds Corporation**

3344. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA) : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount of budgetary grants given to the National Seeds Corporation during the last three years ;

(b) what is the strength of the employees of the NSC and what is the annual expenditure on their emoluments during the last three years ; and

(c) whether the working of the NSC have been evaluated and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The amount of financial assistance extended to the National Seeds Corporation in form of equity, grants-in-aid, etc. during the last three years are as under :—

| Year | Amount released (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---|---|
| 1990-91 . . . | 423.41 |
| 1991-92 . . . | 1,973.19 |
| 1992-93 . . . | 3,318.04 |

(b) The staff strength of the employees of the National Seeds Corporation (NSC) limited and the expenditure on salary and allowances incurred by the Corporation during the last three years are given below :

| Year | Strength of employees | | | Annual expenditure on emoluments (Salary & Allowances and Wages) excluding other benefits (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Regular | Dailywage | Total | |
| 1990-91 . . . . . | 1631 | 520 | 2151 | 740.46 |
| 1991-92 . . . . . | 1579 | 504 | 2083 | 729.71 |
| 1992-93 . . . . . | 1239 | 476 | 1715 | 786.20 |

(c) With a view to improve the efficiency, productivity and profitability of the Corporation, the Govt. of India had appointed M/s. Tata Consultancy Services to undertake a diagnostic review of the Corporation and identify areas of strength and weakness under National Seeds Project Phase-III (N.S.P. III), launched in March, 1990 at a total cost of Rs. 236.01 crore with the World Bank assistance of US $ 150 million. The main findings of the Consultants were as under :—

(i) Imbalance in the capital structure.

(ii) High over-head costs.

(iii) Concentration on high value, low value crops.

Based on their findings, the Agreed Action Plan has been drawn up which provides :

(1) Reduction in over-head expenses by consolidating infrastructure facilities, closure of non-viable field offices, organising production in compact areas and reduction in staff strength by introducing suitable Voluntary Retirement Scheme ;

(2) Revision of its product-mix so as to give emphasis to increase the production of high value, low volume crop seeds including hybride and vegetable seeds having sufficient margin to improve profitability ; and

(3) Financial restructuring to reduce the interest burden and to improve its debt-equity ratio.

The Agreed Action Plan as approved by the Government of India and the World Bank is under the process of implementation.